GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
OCEAN DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:721
ANSWERED ON:05.03.2002
COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT
A. VENKATESH NAIK;RAMSHETH THAKUR

Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Ocean Development propose to strengthen the coastal zone management;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Department in this regard;

(d) whether the Department has also asked the fishermen to exploit ocean resources to enhance their earnings; and

(e) if so, the assistance proposed to be provided to fishermen by the Department for this purpose?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI)

(a) to (c) The Department of Ocean Development which is a scientific department has undertaken an Integrated Coastal and Marine Area Management (ICMAM) programme to develop expertise on application of scientific tools and techniques for Integrated Coastal Zone Management. The activities undertaken include:-

(i) Development of Geographical Information System (GIS) for critical habitats like mangroves, coral reefs, etc.,

(ii) Determination of waste assimilation capacity of estuaries and coastal waters,

(iii) Development of guidelines for conducting Environment Impact Assesment for coastal activities and

(iv) Development of model ICMAM Plans for selected coastal areas.

Under this programme, through tools and techniques like Geographical Information System, Remote Sensing, Mathematical Modelling, etc. it has been possible to demonstrate use of these tools to monitor and manage more effectively various coastal zone problems like erosion, closure of river and lake mouths, pollution, degradation of the habitats, etc. Considerable expertise has been acquired in this area in the last 4 years. The expertise developed is passed on to the coastal states through training programmes like application of GIS for management of coastal areas. It helps in strengthening the management practices in the coastal areas.

(d) and (e) The Potential Fishing Zone (PFZ) information generated by the institutions under the Department is disseminated to the coastal fishermen through State Agencies and Co-operative Societies. This enables better fish catch leading to increase in their earnings.